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February 12, 2001

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
RE: Docket #98P-0151/CP1  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

I am writing this letter today to urge the FDA to grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals for food. Docket #98P-0151/CP1.

Downers pose an increased risk for bacterial contamination. There is also evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy) or "Mad Cow Disease", a disease that has been linked to a fatal human illness.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

And finally, but not least important, it IS possible to move downed animals HUMANELY.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

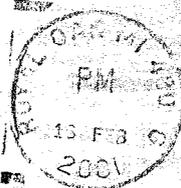
Sincerely,

  
Beth Zaccardelli

98P-0151

C4041

2062 Stratford Dr  
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Docket's Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

